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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/540,201	03/31/2000	Otmar Bitsche	225/48731	3629	
759	90 08/18/2006		EXAM	INER	
CROWELL & MORING, LLP			LAM, THANH		
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
P.O. BOX 14300			ARTONII	PAPER NUMBER	
Washington, DO	Washington, DC 20044-4300			2834	
•		<u>.</u>	DATE MAILED: 08/18/2006		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.





# Office Action Summary

Application No. Applicant(s) 09/540,201

Examiner

Bitsche et al.

Art Unit

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## DETAILED ACTION

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
  - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

2. Claims 1, 3-4, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Capenter in view of Wuerth et al.

Carpenter discloses Regarding claim 9, Carpenter discloses a reluctance motor having a motor and at least two salient stator poles (18, 19) with each of said stator poles being provided with an exciter coil (16), said reluctance motor further comprising at least one device or means

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(24) positioned against an end of each of said exciter coils which faces said rotor to apply a radial force to said exciter coils in a direction away from said rotor. However, Carpenter does not specifically disclose the device having a spring chracteristic.

Wuerth et al. disclose a spring biasing device (20) for the purpose of providing a radially outward force on the ends of said exciter coils.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Carpenter to accommodate the spring bias device as taught by Wuerth in order to improve the holding force for the excited coils.

Regarding claim 3, the proposal in combination of Carpenter and Wuerth disclose said exciter coils are gripped between the spring biasing device and a yoke of the stator.

Regarding claim 4, the proposal in combination of Carpenter and Wuerth disclose each of said stator poles has a groove in at proximately the center of the end facing the rotor wherein said groove receives said spring biasing device.

#### Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.





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## Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2,5-7, and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 8 is allowed.

#### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh Lam whose telephone number is (703) 308-7626. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3432.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0656.

Thanh Lam

**Patent Examiner** 

Dec. 27, 2002